

parts golden brown fringed and strongly barred with black the chest and breast uniform grey, shading into white on the belly; the side- and flank-feathers with three broad, regular, black, white, and black bands at the extremity; the under tail-coverts white, black towards the base, and the tail-feathers dark brown clouded with golden brown. "Iris dark brown; bill black; legs and feet red; wattle round eye scarlet; skin of neck scarlet (below feathers)." [In female.] (*H. O. Forbes.*)

Total length 11·0 inches, wing 5·8, tail 2·2, tarsus 1·8.

Forbes's specimens were obtained in the forest near Hoedjoeng, at the foot of the Besagi Mountains, 3000 feet, and in the forest at the foot of Kaba volcano, 3000 feet.

XXXIX.—*Note on Ardeiralla Woodfordi, Grant.*

By W. R. OGILVIE GRANT (Nat. Hist. Mus.).

THIS species was originally described in the 'Proceedings of the Zoological Society,' 1888, p. 202, from three specimens (an adult and nearly adult female and a young male) obtained by Mr. C. M. Woodford at Aola, Guadalcanar, one of the Solomon Islands. These specimens were examined by Count Salvadori during his last visit to London; and I observe that the results of his investigations are published in his 'Aggiunte alla Ornitologia della Papuasias e delle Molucche,' parte terza, p. 207 (1891). While not actually adding *A. Woodfordi* to the synonymy of *A. flavicollis*, he is evidently of opinion that it is only the female of that species. In the Museum collection there are a very large number of specimens of *A. flavicollis* of both sexes, many of them carefully sexed by such collectors as Davison, Oates, and Legge; so that there is no reason to doubt their accuracy. I have again compared the adult female type of *A. Woodfordi* with a series of female specimens of *A. flavicollis*, and cannot imagine how Count Salvadori could think of uniting them, as anything more distinct than the two species before us would be difficult to find; and I have serious doubts as to whether they should not be placed in distinct genera when one compares the very different tarsi and feet. The following is a comparative table, showing the chief points in which they differ:—

| | <i>A. Woodfordi</i> , ♀ adult. | <i>A. flavicollis</i> , ♀ adult. |
|---|--|---|
| Back of the neck, back, and scapulars : | Dark chestnut-rufous. | Ashy brown, slightly glossed. |
| Rump and upper tail-coverts : | Ashy black, fringed with cinnamon-rufous. | Ashy brown. |
| Whole of the under surface : | Cinnamon-rufous, becoming more cinnamon and less rufous below the breast. Throat and neck flecked with small dark shaft-spots. | Lower part of the cheeks, sides of the throat, and neck cinnamon. Feathers of the chin, front of throat and neck, and chest dull chestnut, shading into dark grey towards the extremities, and somewhat widely and irregularly margined on one or both webs with white. Breast and underparts blackish grey, edged and fringed with whitish or buff on the belly. |
| Culmen | 3·1. | 3·4. |
| Tarsus | 2·7. | 2·6. |
| Middle toe and claw | 2·1. | 2·8. |

I think anyone taking the trouble to compare the above characters and measurements will have no further doubt that *A. Woodfordi* is a very distinct bird; the proportion of the middle toe and claw to the tarsus shows this at a glance, for in the Solomon-Island bird the tarsus is much the longer, while in *A. flavicollis* it is somewhat shorter.

Oates, in his 'Birds of Burmah,' ii. p. 255, is no doubt somewhat in error in describing the male and female of *A. flavicollis* as similar in plumage, for the female never has the slate-grey upper and underparts so conspicuous in the adult male.

XL.—A Contribution to the Knowledge of the Dermal Sense-Organ of the Crustacea. By Dr. OTTO VOM RATH*.

I HAVE been engaged for a long time upon comparative studies on the dermal sense-organs of Arthropods, and have already published accounts of my investigations on Myriapods and

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